

Hurunui District Council Coastal Hazards

Multi Flood Hazard Assessment
Leithfield Beach

1

Topics

- Need for assessment
- Flood mechanisms
- Flood probabilities
- Climate change and sea level rise
- Flood scenarios
- Flood model
- Results
- Summary
- Going forward

2

©Jacobs 2019

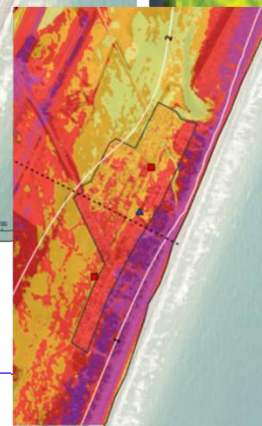
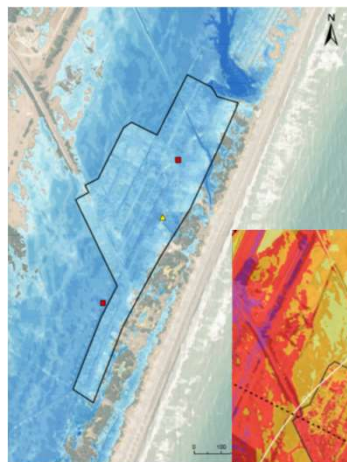
2

Need for assessment

3

Need for assessment

- Leithfield Beach is susceptible to flooding from different sources:
 - Storm tides
 - Hurunui District Coastal Hazard and Risk Assessment (Jacobs, 2020)
 - High flow in the rivers and streams and heavy rain
 - Kowai River, Leithfield Beach and Amberley Beach flood (ECan, 2014)
 - High groundwater level
 - Hurunui District Coastal Hazard and Risk Assessment (Jacobs, 2020)



4

©Jacobs 2020

4

Need for assessment

- Leithfield Beach is susceptible to flooding from different sources:
 - 31 July 2008 (ECan photos)



5

©Jacobs 2020

5

Need for assessment

- To better understand the combined flood hazard from multiple sources
- To understand how this will change in the future with sea level rise and climate change
- To provide information to help develop appropriate adaptive pathway options for managing flood hazard in Leithfield Beach

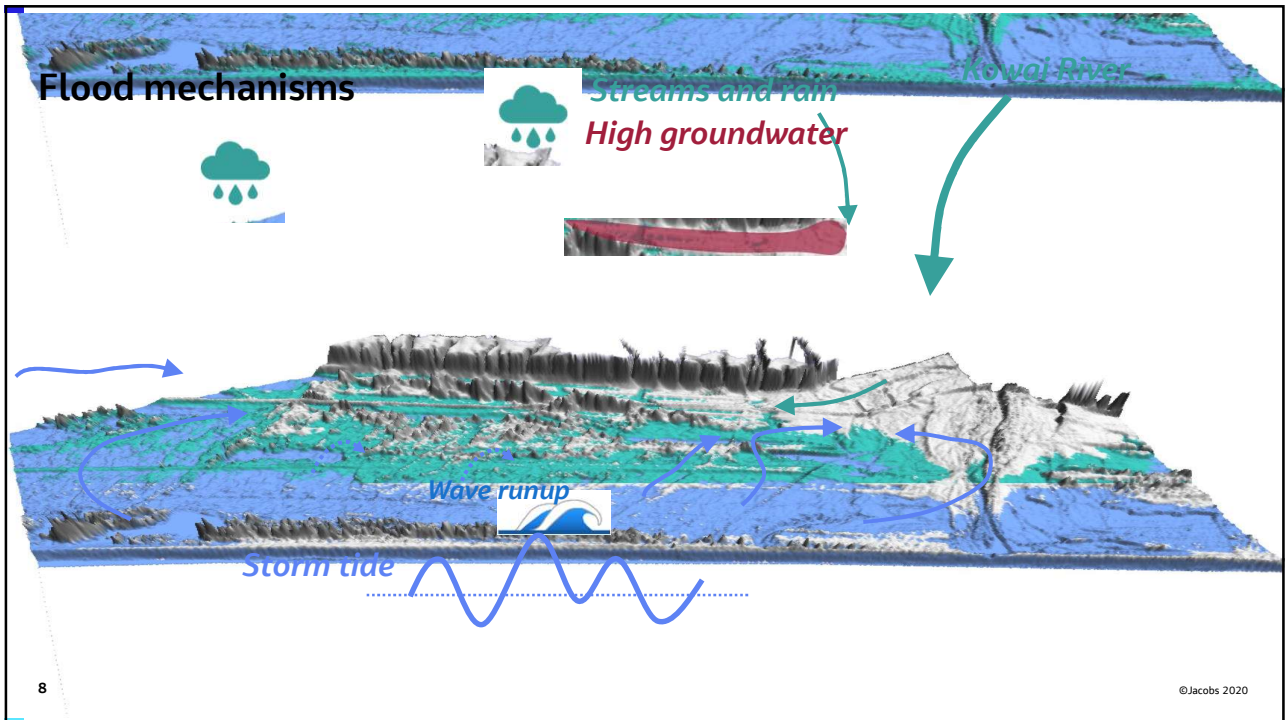
6

©Jacobs 2020

6

Flood mechanisms

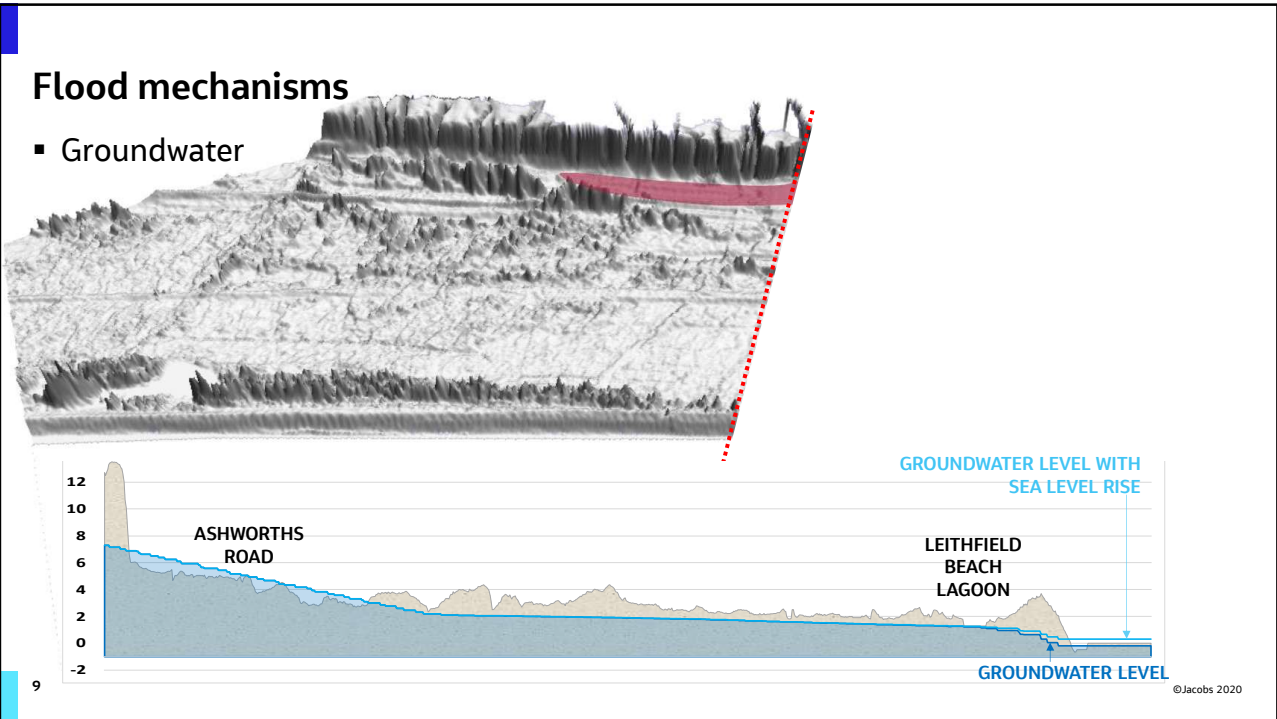
7



8

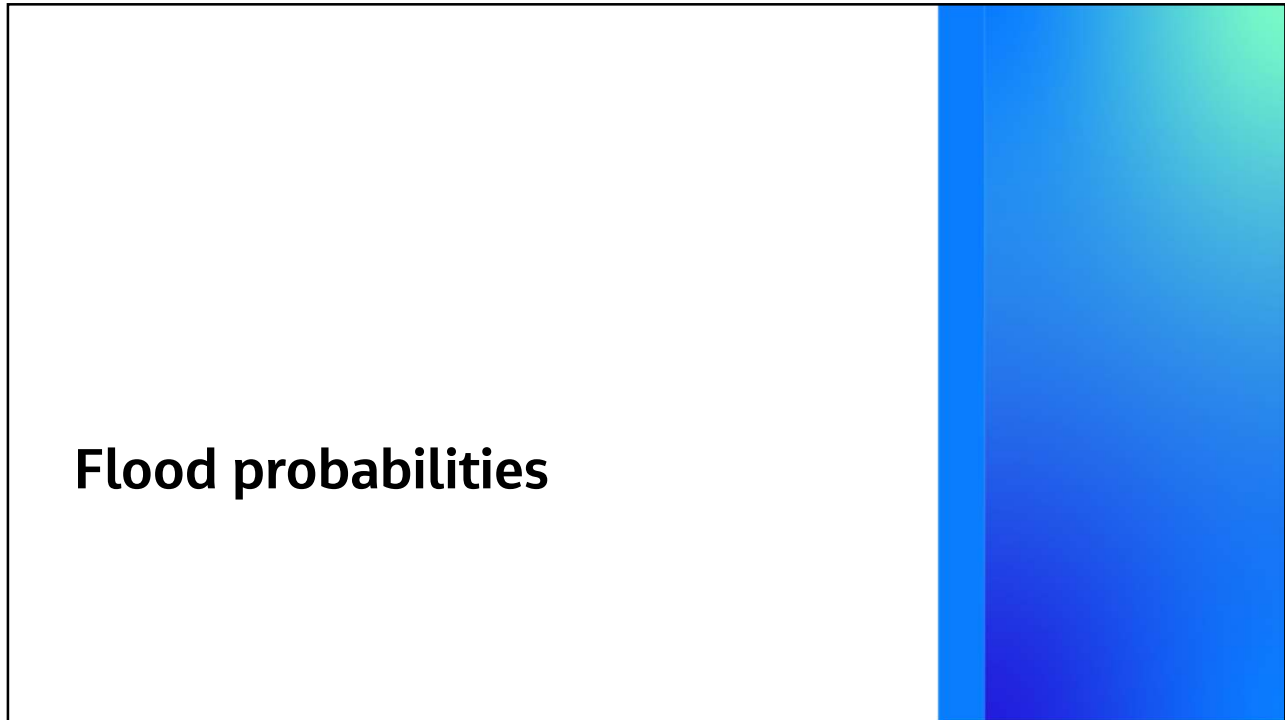
Flood mechanisms

- Groundwater



9

Flood probabilities



10

Flood probabilities

- Average Recurrence Interval (ARI)
 - On average, how often will it happen – every 10 years?, every 100 years?
- Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)
 - What's the chance it will happen in any one year – 10%?, 1%?

	ARI	AEP	What's the chance it will happen during a period of....		
			30 years?	60 years?	100 years?
"small flood"	5 years	20%	100%	100%	100%
↓	10 years	10%	96%	100%	100%
↓	20 years	5%	79%	95%	99%
↓	50 years	2%	45%	70%	87%
"big flood"	200 years	0.5%	14%	26%	39%

11

©Jacobs 2020

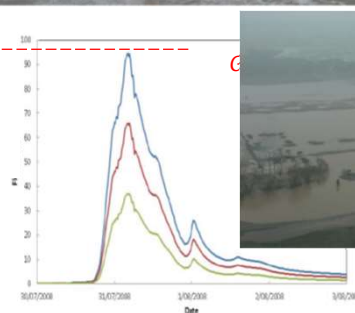
11

Flood probabilities

- Kowai River (ECan analysis)
 - Flood frequency at the North Branch gauge

North Branch	
<i>Design flows (m³/s)</i>	
0.2 AEP (5 year ARI)	78
0.1 AEP (10 year ARI)	103
0.05 AEP (20 year ARI)	128
0.02 AEP (50 year ARI)	160
0.01 AEP (100 year ARI)	184
0.005 AEP (200 year ARI)	208
0.002 AEP (500 year ARI)	239

95 m³/s
between
5 year
and 10
year ARI



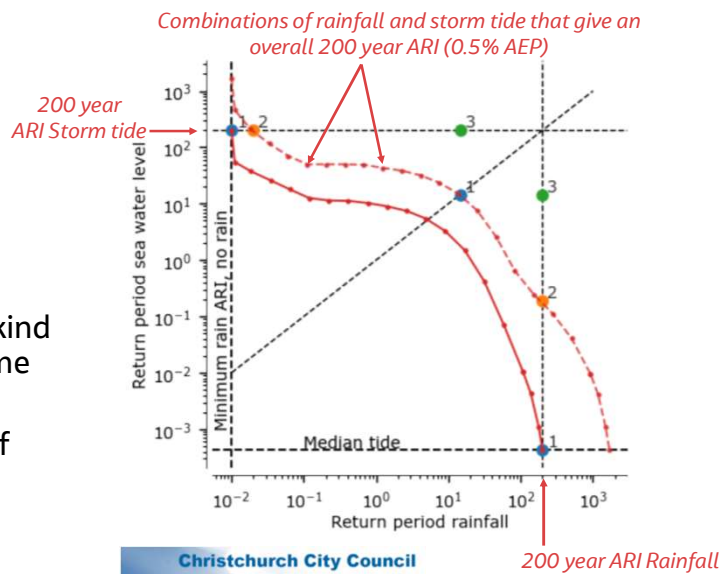
12

©Jacobs 2020

12

Flood probabilities

- Joint probability
 - What’s the chance of two things happening at the same time?
- Two main sources of flooding
 - Storm tide
 - High river flow and rain
- Weather systems that cause one kind of flooding are likely to cause some of the other kind as well
- But it's less likely that extremes of each kind of flooding will happen together



Christchurch City Council
 LDRP097 Multi-Hazard Baseline Modelling
 Joint Risks of Pluvial and Tidal Flooding
 Rev 0
 February 2021
 ©Jacobs 2020

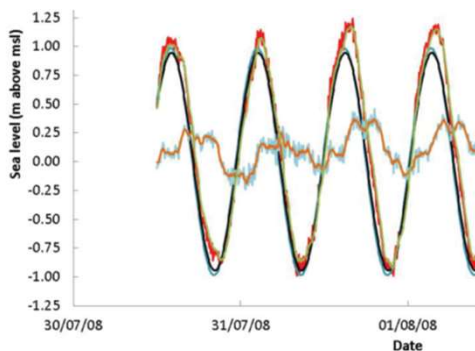
13

13

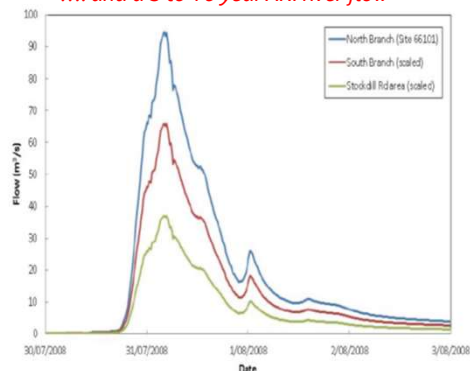
Flood probabilities

- Example: 31 July 2008

A "moderate King tide" (little storm surge)...



.... and a 5 to 10 year ARI river flow



14

©Jacobs 2020

14

Flood probabilities – what’s the worst?

- Could look at lots of combinations of different probability storm tide and river flood events to find the combination that gives the worst flooding for one AEP – takes time
- Or choose a few combinations (often just two) which are “on the safe side” of estimating the worst flooding

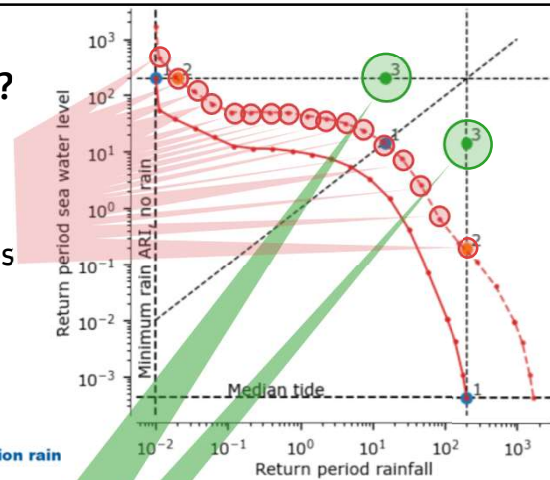


Table 1 Recommended rain/sea event ARI paired values for long duration rain events, compared to previous pairings

Joint Event ARI (years)	10 year	50 year	100 year	200 year
Historic (1/10 th rule)	1	5	10	20
Now recommended for long duration (rain >= 6 hrs)	2	7	10	13

Christchurch City Council
 LDRP097 Multi-Hazard Baseline Modelling
 Joint Risks of Pluvial and Tidal Flooding
 Rev 0
 February 2021

Flood probabilities

- For our assessment we have considered two overall probabilities of flooding:
 - 0.5% AEP (or 200 year ARI), a more extreme event – often considered for land use planning
 - 2% AEP (or 50 year ARI), a more frequent event – often considered for asset planning
- For each probability we have assessed the flooding for two combinations of storm tide and river flow + rainfall (the “1/10th rule”):

Flood probability (AEP)	Storm tide probability (AEP)	River flow and rainfall probability (AEP)
0.5%	0.5%	5%
	5%	0.5%
2%	2%	20%
	20%	2%

Climate change and sea level rise

17

Climate change and sea level rise

- Climate change is increasing flood hazard in Leithfield Beach
- Two main factors:
 - Sea level rise (SLR)
 - The mean water level in the sea is rising and this means that storm tide levels are also rising by a similar amount
 - Increasing depths of rainfall in extreme rainfall events
 - The total amount of rain falling in storm events is expected to increase – this would mean more runoff and could result in higher flows in the streams and rivers
- Knock-on effects
 - Near the coast, groundwater level will likely rise as the sea level rises
 - Groundwater levels could also increase because of changes in rainfall patterns – more complex
- And... the ground may be sinking – 1 mm/year in Kaikoura?

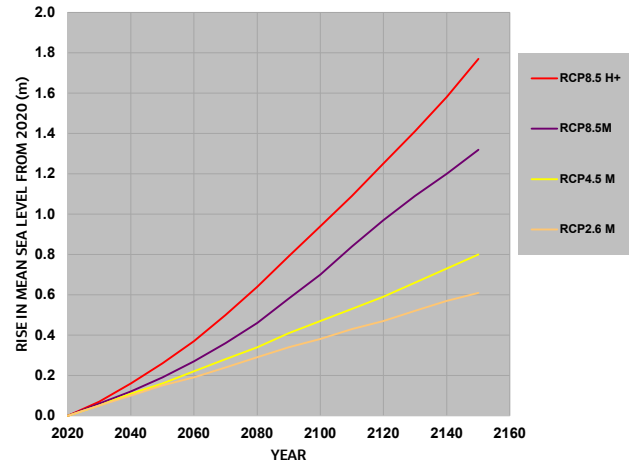
18

©Jacobs 2020

18

Climate change and sea level rise

- Sea level rise
 - Ministry for Environment guidance (2017)
 - 0.5 m likely in the next ~50 years
 - 1 m possible in the next ~80 years

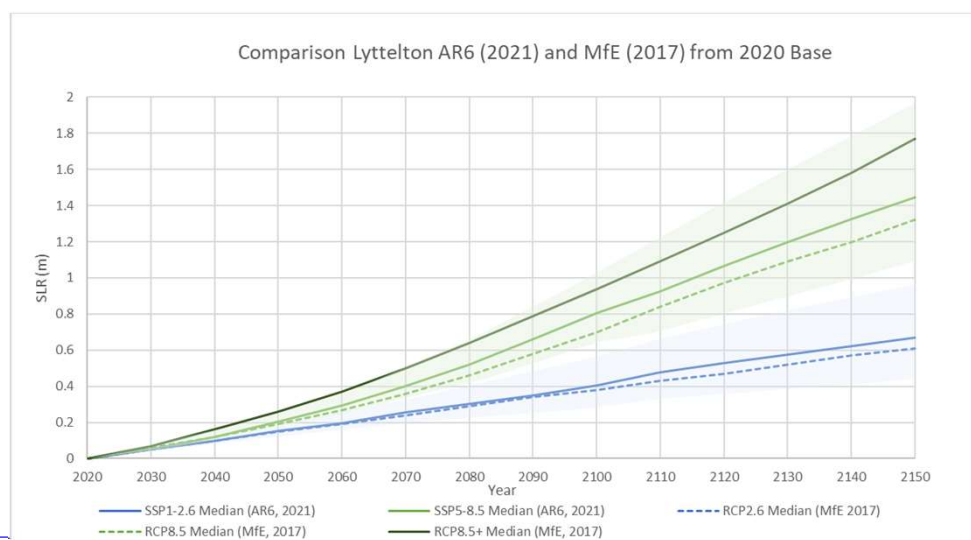


19

©Jacobs 2020

19

Climate change and sea level rise - IPCC AR6 (2021) and MfE 2017



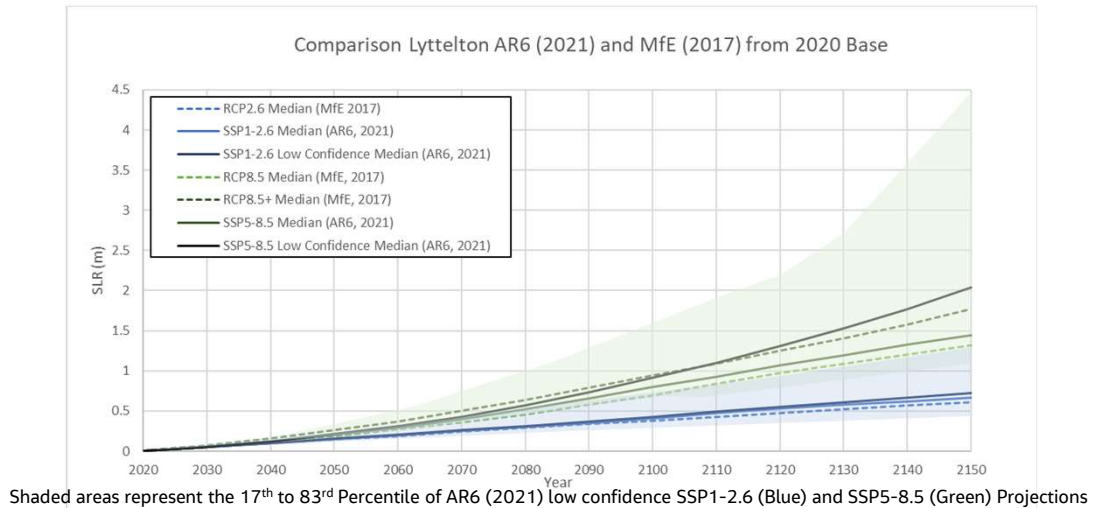
20

Shaded areas represent the 17th to 83rd Percentile of AR6 (2021) SSP1-2.6 (Blue) and SSP5-8.5 (Green) Projections

©Jacobs 2020

20

Climate change and sea level rise - IPCC AR6 (2021) and MfE 2017



21

©Jacobs 2020

21

Climate change and sea level rise

- Extreme rainfall
 - Ministry for Environment guidance (2018)
 - 24 hour rainfall totals for storm events to increase by 8.5% per degree of rise in temperature
 - In the next 60 to 80 years rainfall totals could increase by 14% to 22% depending on how much the average temperature in New Zealand rises
 - River flows may not necessarily increase by the same amount, especially at the bottom of catchments, due to increased flooding upstream

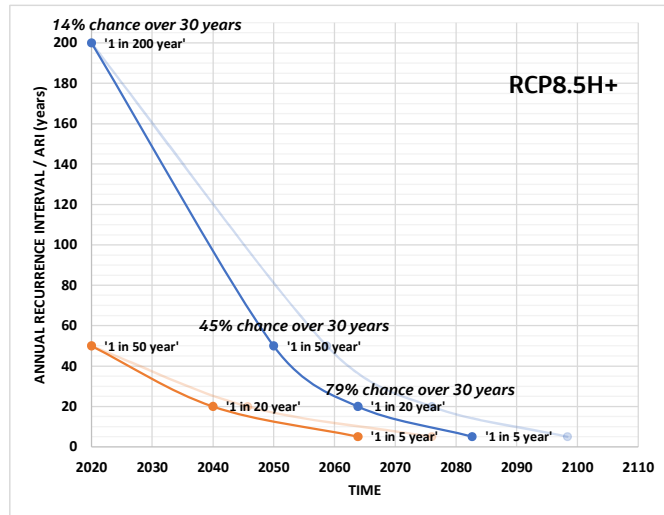
22

©Jacobs 2020

22

Climate change and sea level rise

- Climate change affects the probability of flooding
 - The severity of more frequent events will become greater (flooding in the 10 year ARI will become as bad as the 20 year, for example)
 - or,
 - Severe events will become more frequent (the 50 year ARI event will occur every 20 years on average, for example)
- Change in probability of storm tides at Leithfield Beach



23

©Jacobs 2020

23

Flood scenarios

24

Flood scenarios

Flood probability	Sea level rise	Storm tide probability	River flow and rainfall probability
0.5% AEP (200 year ARI)	0 m	0.5%	5%
		5%	0.5%
	0.3 m	0.5%	5%
		5%	0.5%
	0.5 m	0.5%	5%
		5%	0.5%
1 m	0.5%	5%	
	5%	0.5%	
2% AEP (50 year ARI)	0.5 m	2%	20%
		20%	2%

25

© Jacobs 2020

25

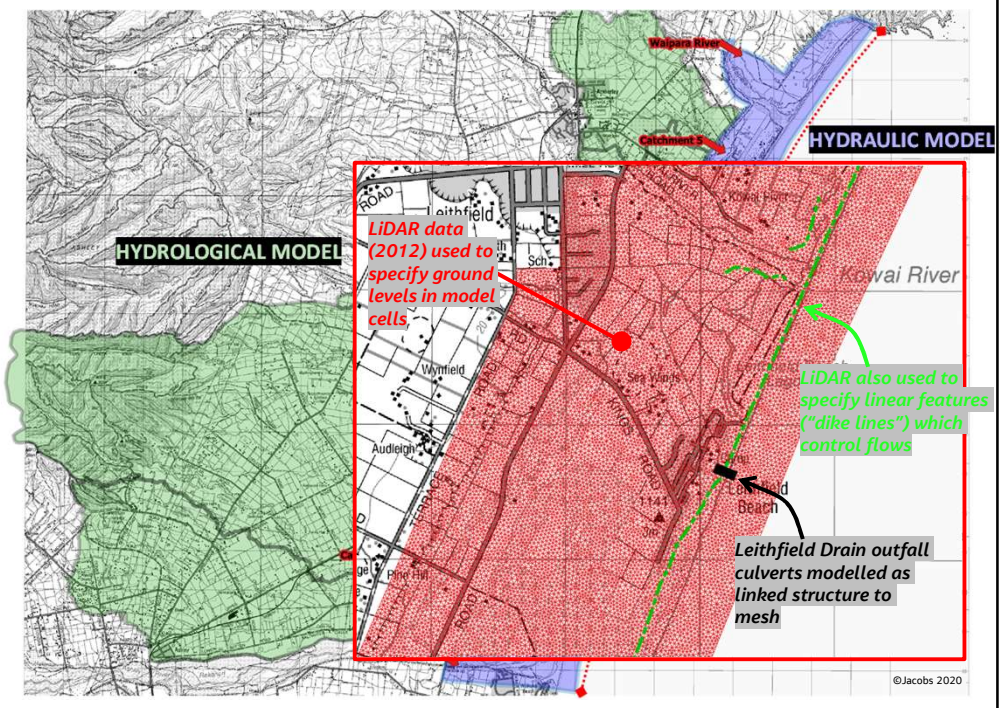
Flood model



26

Flood model

- Hydraulic model
 - mesh of cells that calculate the movement of water across the ground
 - extends over the whole coastal plain to include all the flood flow paths that may affect communities

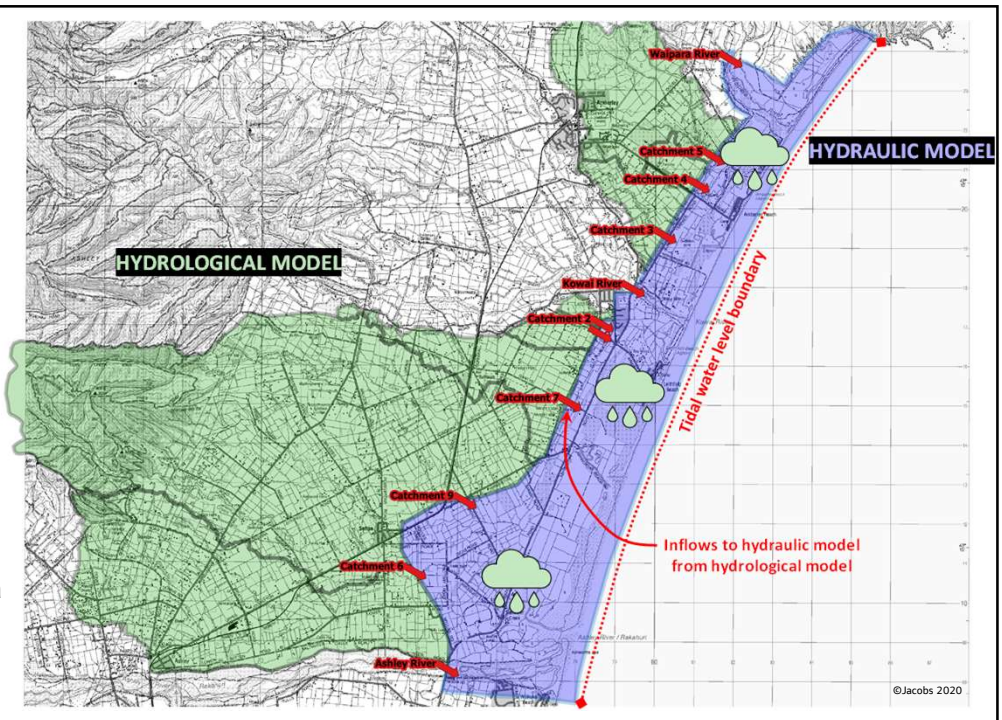


27

27

Flood model

- Hydrological model
 - Calculates the runoff flow from the inland catchments
 - Rainfall applied directly to hydraulic model
 - Flood frequency data for large rivers

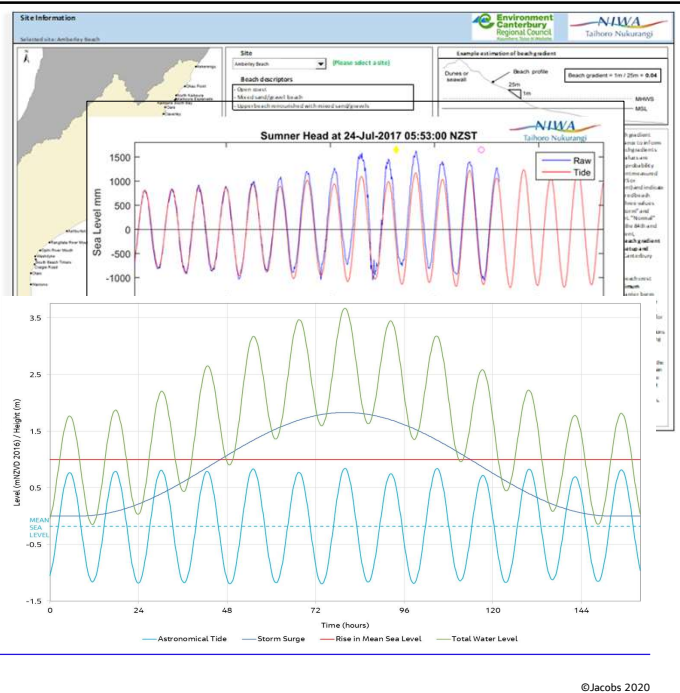


28

28

Flood model

- Tidal water level boundary
 - Storm tide levels from ECan Coastal Calculator (to NZVD2016)
 - 20% AEP = 1.99 m
 - 5% AEP = 2.25 m
 - 2% AEP = 2.41 m
 - 0.5% AEP = 2.67 m
 - Typical storm surge adopted from example records
 - Water level time series composed of
 - typical astronomical tide
 - + storm surge to give storm tide level
 - + sea level rise



29

© Jacobs 2020

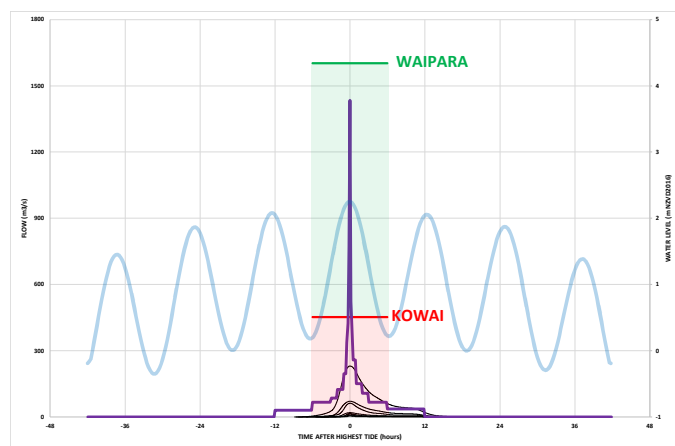
29

Flood model

- Flow boundaries
 - Runoff from local catchments
 - Rainfall-runoff flow (US Soil Conservation Service method)
 - Rainfall depths from NIWA High Intensity Design System (HiRDSv4)
 - 24-hour nested rainfall pattern
 - Large rivers (Waipara, Kowai, Ashely)
 - ECan flood frequency analyses
 - Long duration events, constant flow over peak tide (12-hour)
 - Direct rainfall onto hydraulic model
 - Same rainfall profile as for small catchments

River Flow for Ashley River at RTB (Cones Rd)

LAST SAMPLE (NZD STD TIME)	STAGE M	FLOW M ³ /S	CHANGE MM/H	7 DAY PEAK STAGE	7 DAY PEAK FLOW	7 DAY PEAK DATE	TEMP CELSIUS
08-Jun 07:00	0.798	86.476	2	2.659	1154.32	01-Jun 00:05	



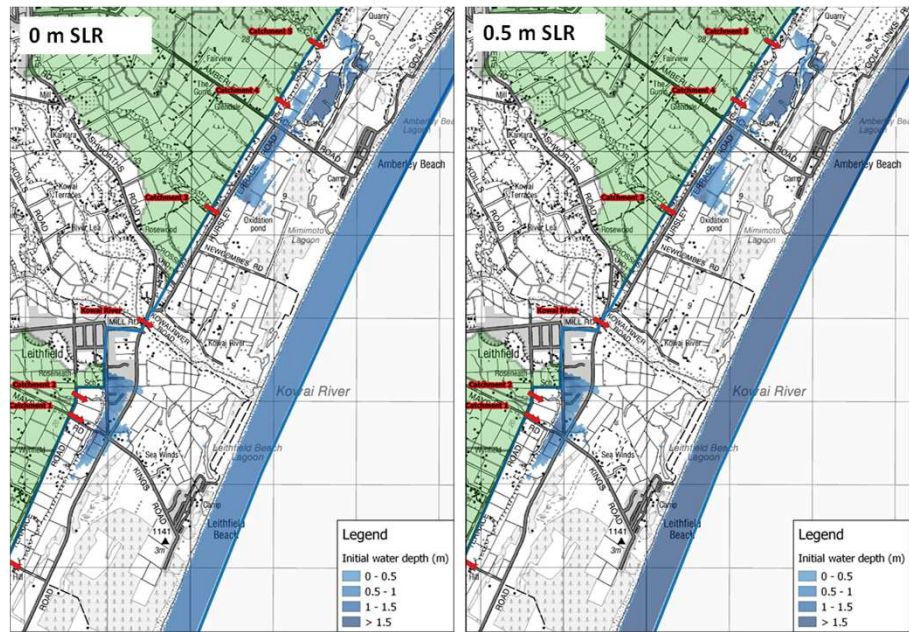
30

© Jacobs 2020

30

Flood model

- Initial water levels
 - Include ponding from groundwater where the groundwater level exceeds the ground level
 - Groundwater levels were derived through modelling in the Coastal Hazard and Risk Assessment (Jacobs, 2020)



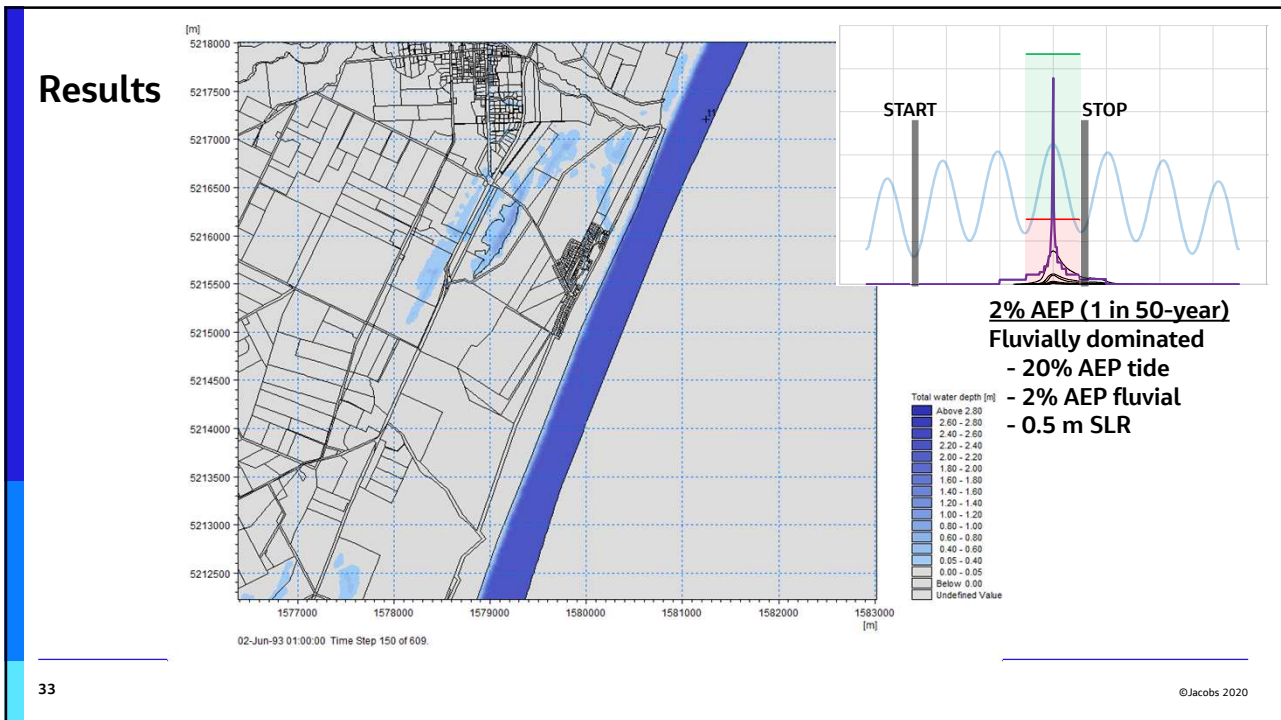
31

© Jacobs 2020

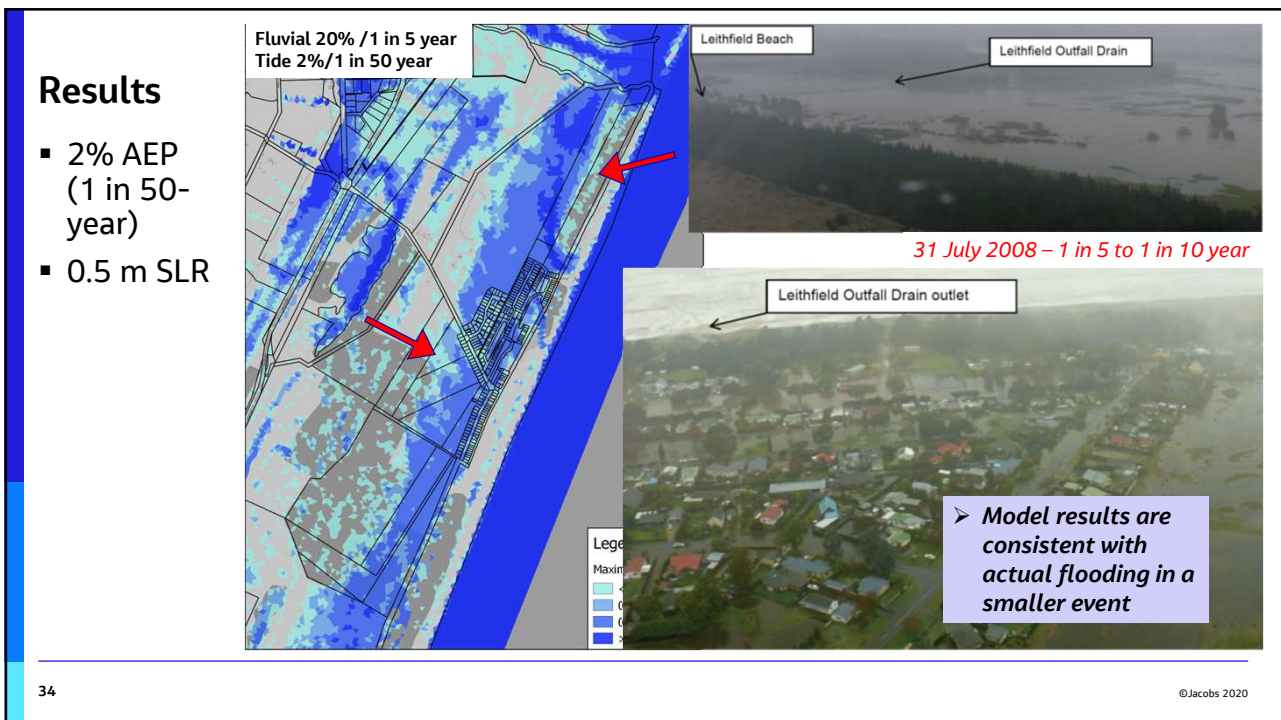
31

Results

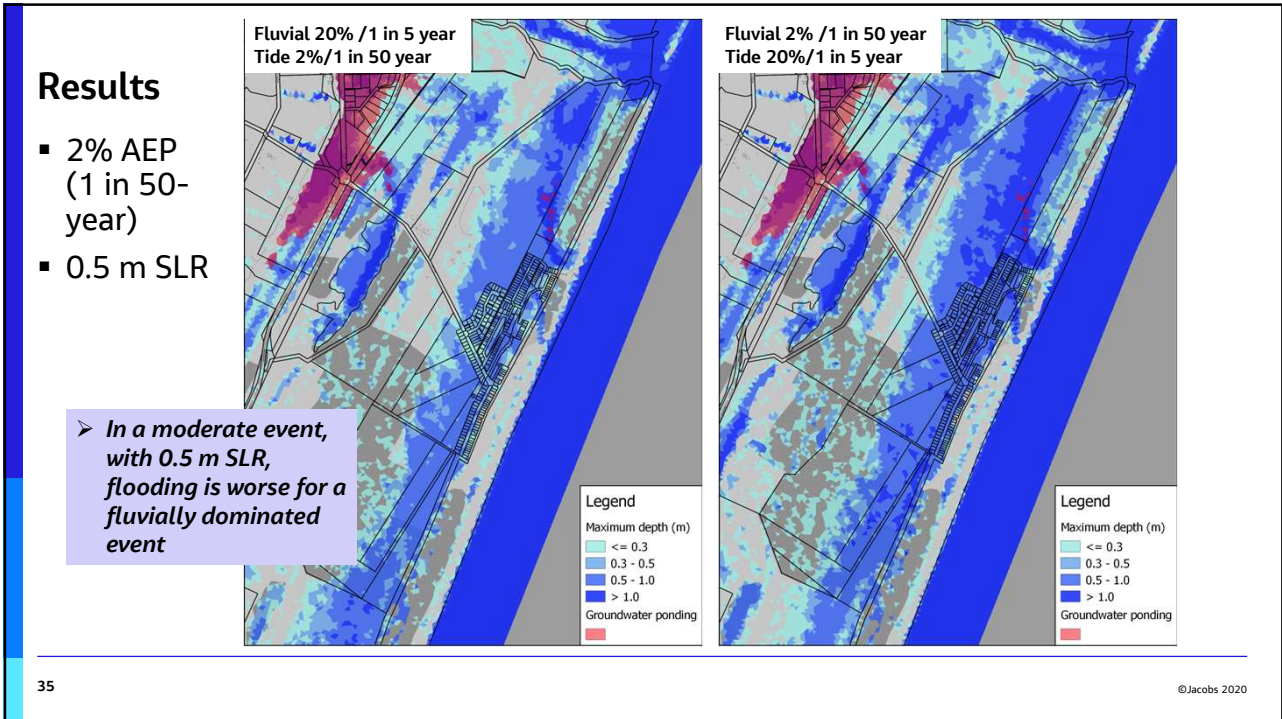
32



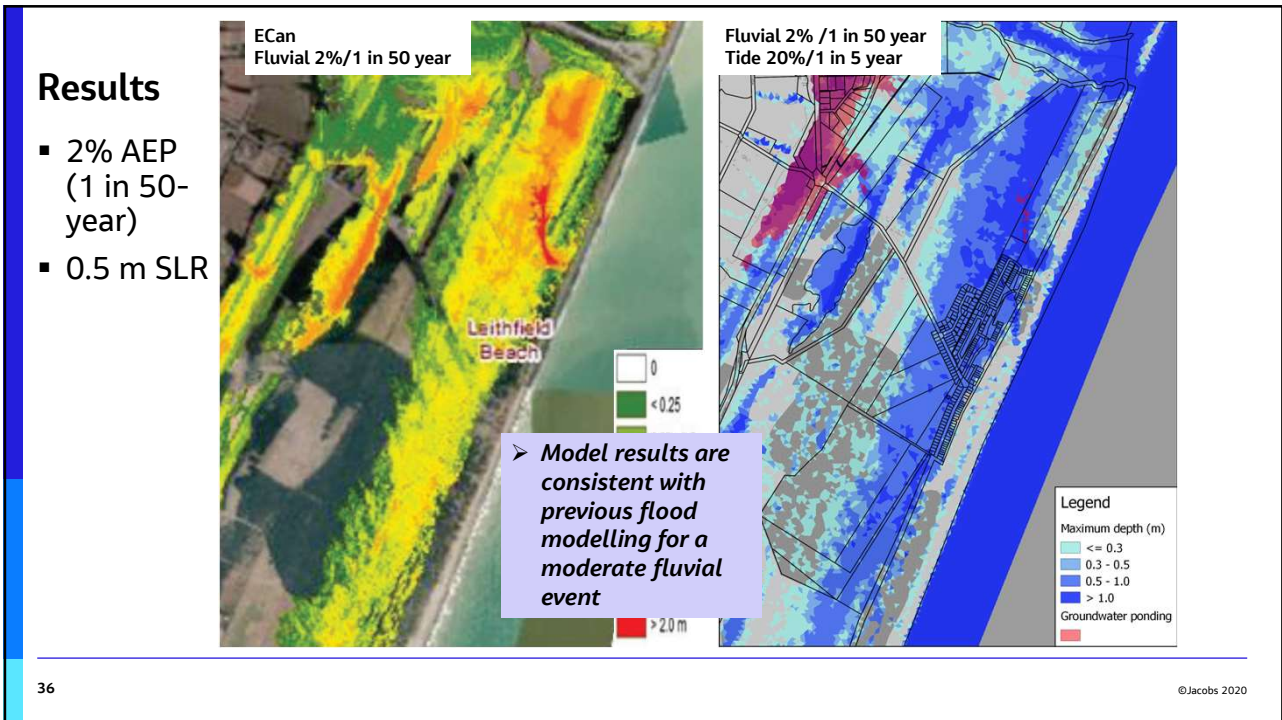
33



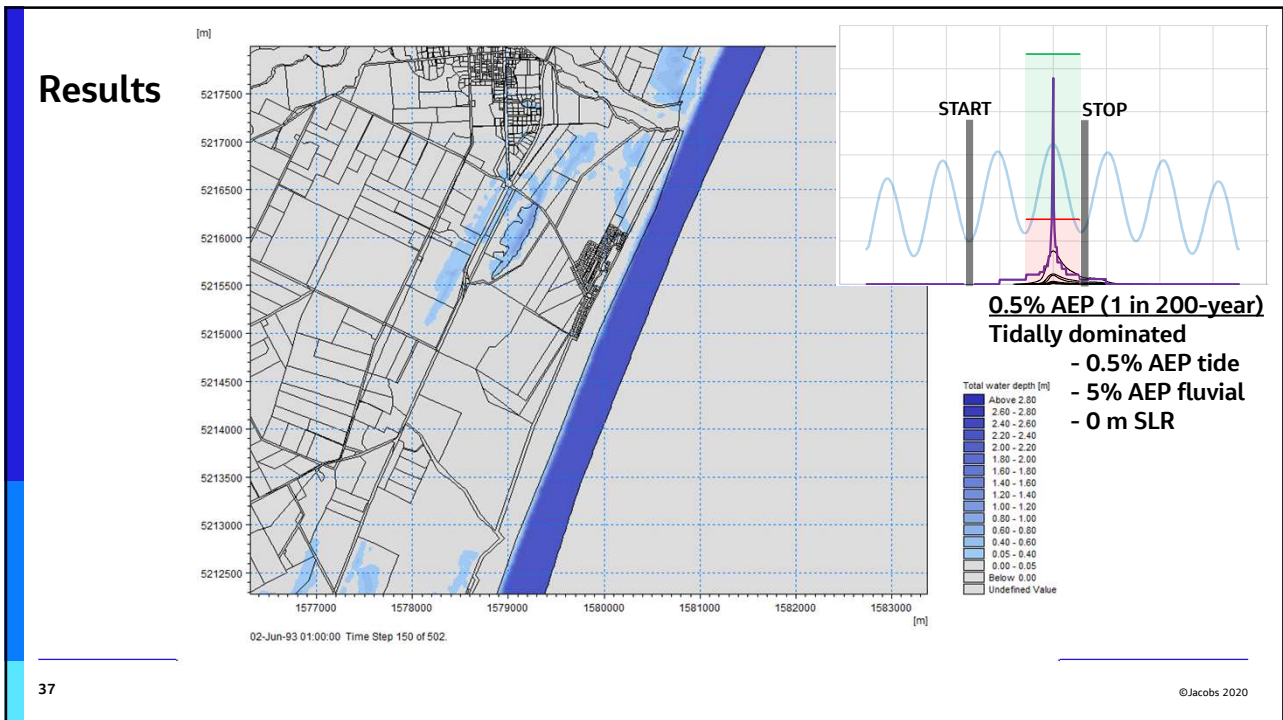
34



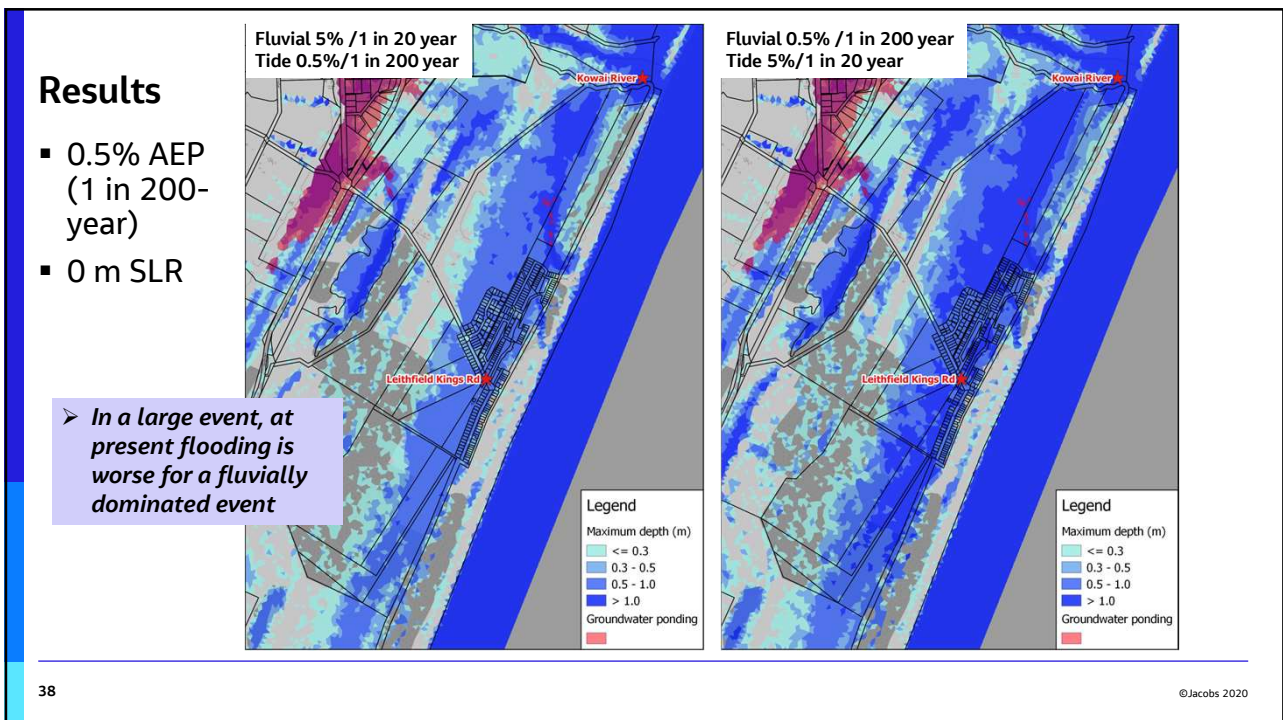
35



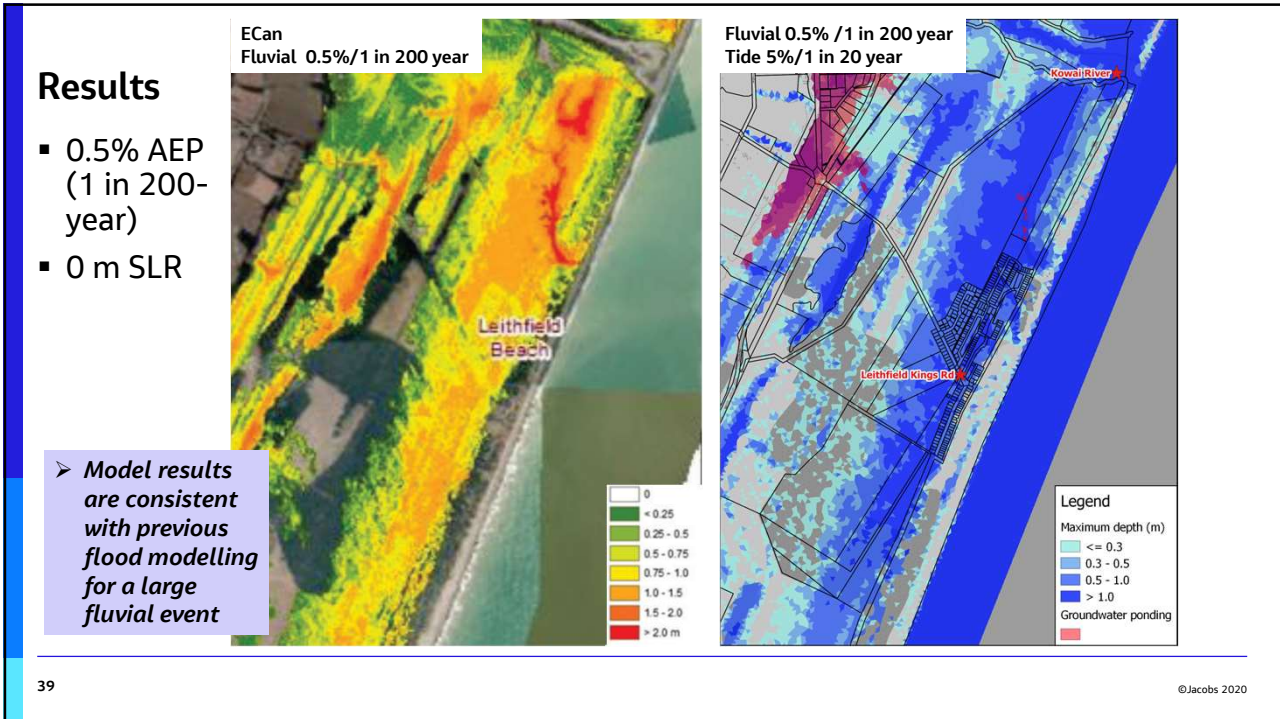
36



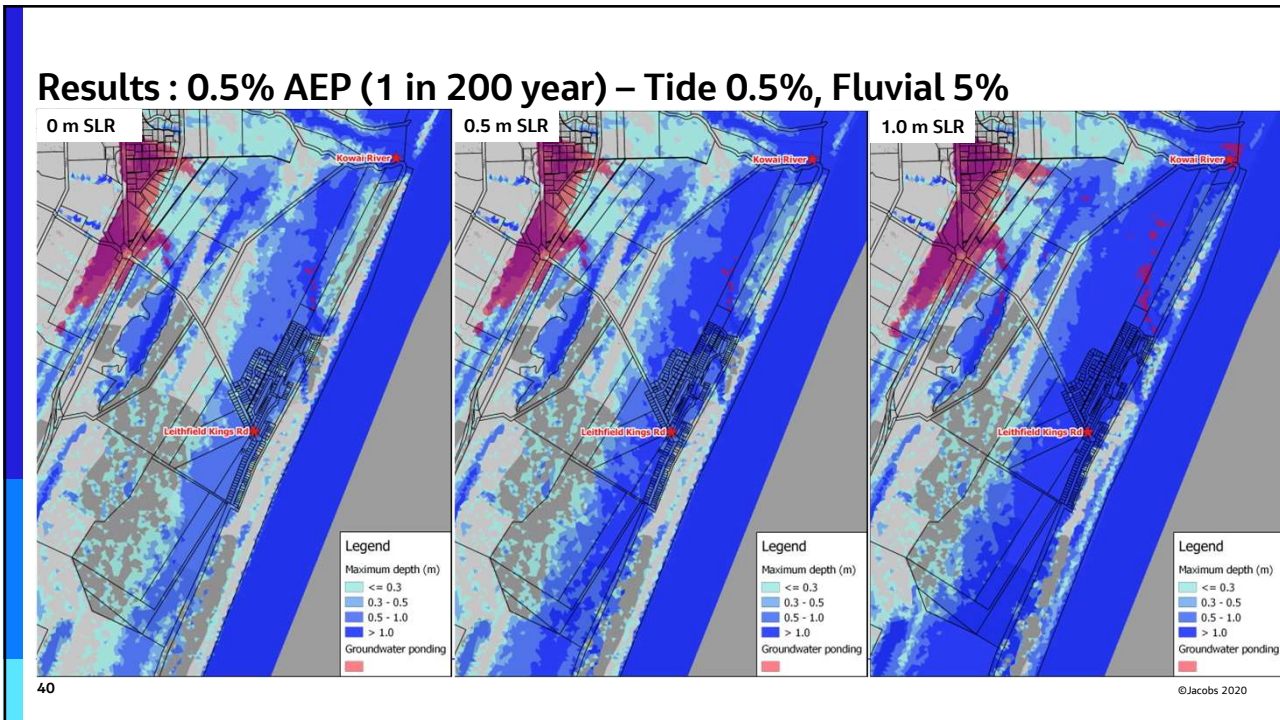
37



38

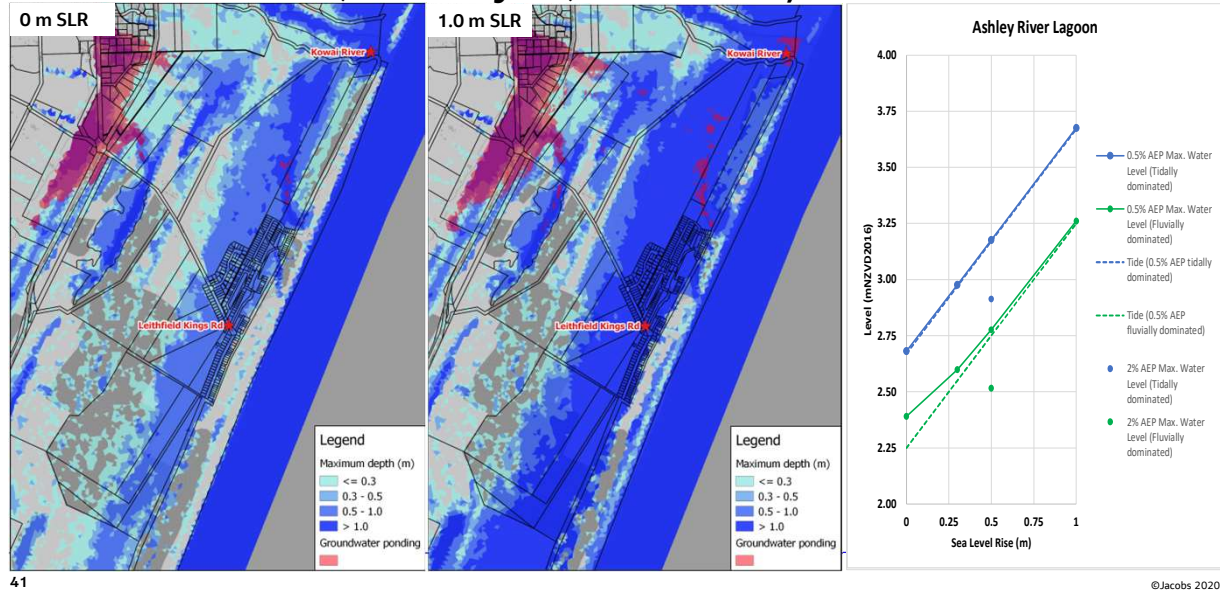


39



40

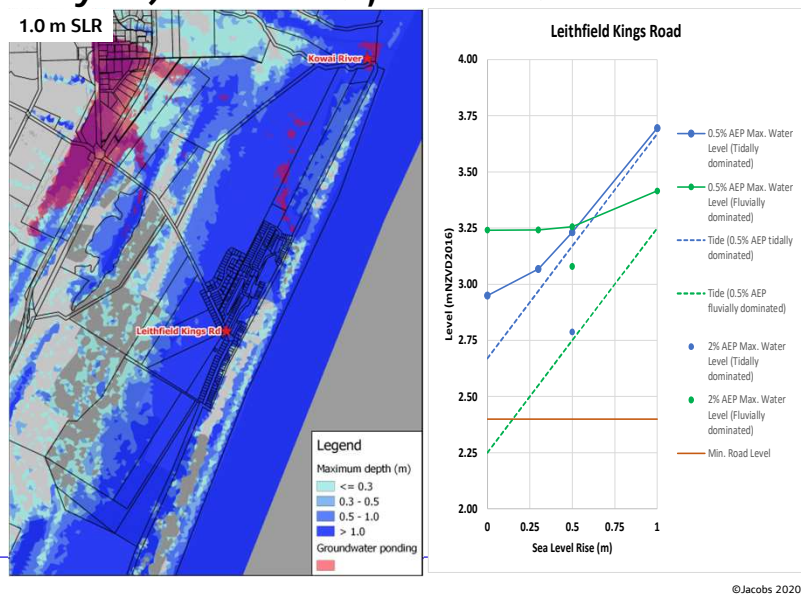
Results : 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 year) – Tide 0.5%, Fluvial 5%



41

Results : 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 year) – Tide 0.5%, Fluvial 5%

- At present time, fluvial flooding worse than tidal for a given AEP
- As sea level rises, tidal becomes worse for big floods, for smaller floods, fluvial remains the worst
- Potential for groundwater ponding increases a little with SLR but is mostly in the seep area below Ashworths Road and lowest points around lagoons



42

42

Results - uncertainties

- Kowai river mouth and Leithfield lagoon
 - Openings modelled as per 2012 LiDAR – considered typical but these do vary with time (and can be artificially cut) – though generally low relative to storm tide levels
- Model scale
 - Small features and drains not represented due to size of mesh but key raised features that control flooding are included separately
- River flows
 - Simplified flow duration for main rivers but not unrealistic
 - Flooded area fills rapidly in large events (small floodplain volume relative to river flow)
 - Flood extents and depths likely not very sensitive to duration
- Groundwater
 - Groundwater levels and the changes in level with SLR based on simpler modelling – less certainty in this source of hazard

43

©Jacobs 2020

43

Summary

44

Summary of Multi Flood Hazard Assessment for Leithfield Beach

- Main sources of flood hazard are high river flow and storm tide
- Runoff from local catchments important in smaller events
- Probability of flooding is high
 - Widespread flooding for events more frequent than 1 in 50 year at present
 - Deepest flooding is in the lower land around Lucas Drive
 - Flooding will become more frequent with climate change and sea level rise
- At present, flooding during large events is worse for high river flow events than for high storm tide events
- With rising mean sea level, flooding in large events will become worse for storm tide events than for high river flow events. Smaller, more frequent flood events, remain fluvially dominated under sea level rise.
- Less certainty in hazard from groundwater - modelling indicates this is mainly in the seep area below Ashworths Road rather than in Leithfield Beach itself and is less affected by sea level rise than tidal and fluvial flooding

45

©Jacobs 2020

45

Going forward

46